

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 INT-05 /023 W
----- 099507

R 180430Z AUG 75
FM AMCGNSUL MADRAS
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3026
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCGNSUL CALCUTTA

UNCLAS MADRAS 1153

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: BTIG, BEXP, BPRG, IN

SUB: SPECIAL TRADE OPPORTUNITY- PROSPECTS FOR SALE OF
U.S. MINING EQUIPMENT, PARTICULARLY DRAG LINES

1. ECGNOFF MET B.N. RAMAN, CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, SINGARENI COLLIERIES CO. LTD., KOTHAGUDEM, ANDHRA PRADESH LO EXPLORE PROSPECTS FOR SALE OF AMERICAN MINING EQUIPMENT. SINGARENI PLANS TO DOUBLE CURRENT ANNUAL PRGDUCTIGN OF 6 MILLIGN TGNS OF CGAL BY 1978/79, AT ESTIMATED CGST OF RS.600 MILLION. TWO NEW PRGPOSED OPEN CAST MINES, ONE AT RAMAGUDAM (KARIMNAGAR DISTRICT) AND THE OTHER AT MANGUR (KHAMMAM DISTRICT), ARE EACP EXPECTED TO YIELD ANNUALLY 2 MILLIGN TGNS. THE PROPOSED RAMAGUNDAM MINE IS ESTIMATED TO CGST RS.300 MILLIGN INCLUDING RS.100 MILLION (\$12.5 MILLION) IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE. FOR THE MANAGER MINE WHERE THE OVERBURDEN RATIO IS LESS, NO ESTIMATES PAVE BEEN MADE SO FAR.

2. RAMAN IS TPE MAJOR ITEM TG BE IMPORTED IN THE SINGARENI EXPANSION PROGRAM WILL BE TWO DRAG LINES OF ABOVE 75 METERS BOOM WITP 15 CUBIC METER BUCKETS ESTIMATED TO COST \$6 TO 7 MILLIGN. 15/75 IS SPECIFIED ONLY AS THE MINIMUM AS OFFICIAWS REALIZE THAT THIS IS NOT A STANDARD SIZE IN THE U.S. IS STATED TG BE 15/110 WPILE IN THE USSR IT IS 15/90. SUCH EQUIPMENT IS NGRMALLY CUSTOM
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BUILT. SOME ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT SUCH AS DRILLS,

PERCUSSION DRILLS FOR DRILLING UP TO 100 FEET DEPTH AND
OTHER SUNDRY ITEMS MAY ALSO BE IMPORTED.

3. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE SPECIFIC POSSIBLE IMPORT FROM
AMERICAN SOURCES, RAMAN MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATION OF INDIAN
COAL MINING INDUSTRY:

PLANS ARE BEING FINALIZED FOR EXPANSION OF COAL PRODUCTION
DURING INDIAN FIFTH FIVE YEAR PLAN. KEY DECISIONS ARE
LIKELY TO BE MADE THIS YEAR ABOUT PURCHASE OF MINING
MACHINERY. RAMAN STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT A COMMODITY
EXPERT IN THE COAL MINING FIELD OR THE ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR FOR COAL, U.S. BUREAU OF MINES VISIT COAL FIELDS
IN INDIA, IN ORDER TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPORT
OF AMERICAN EQUIPMENT. HE FEELS THAT BECAUSE OF STANDARDIZED
EQUIPMENT, AMERICAN FIRMS HAVE ADVANTAGE OVER OTHER
SUPPLIERS, PARTICULARLY WEST EUROPEAN FIRMS, IN THIS FIELD.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: POST WOULD APPRECIATE USDOC
ALERTING APPROPRIATE AMERICAN FIRMS OF THE PROSPECTS
FOR SALE OF DRAG LINES TO SINGARENI COLLIERIES
COMPANY AND EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING A
COMMODITY SPECIALIST IN THE COAL MINING EQUIPMENT FIELD
TO INDIA TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SALE OF AMERICAN
EQUIPMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRAS01153
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750284-0581
From: MADRAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750844/aaaabmfq.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JAN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPECIAL TRADE OPPORTUNITY- PROSPECTS FOR SALE OF U.S. MINING EQUIPMENT, PARTICULARLY DRAG LINES
TAGS: BTIO, BEXP, BPRO, IN
To: COM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006